

Tennessee Pollution Prevention Partnership Success Story



DENSO Manufacturing Tennessee, Inc.
1720 Robert C. Jackson Drive
Maryville, TN 37801
(865) 982-7000



Performer Reduces Water Usage

The Member

DENSO Manufacturing Tennessee, Inc., is part of DENSO Corporation's global network of 74 subsidiaries in 29 nations and the fourth largest producer of advanced technology, components and systems for all major automakers. The Tennessee facilities employ 2,300 associates in Maryville. Automotive components and systems produced at the Tennessee operations include the following:

Alternators, starters, instrument clusters, and electronic components

The Story – Fire Pump Testing

DENSO's Starter/Alternator Plant runs a weekly fire pump test to ensure it operates properly and the campus has adequate fire suppression coverage.

The pump moves 1,500 gallons of water per minute from our on-site storage tank. Facilities personnel use the water one time to cycle the pump and monitor the flow. The water then drains into the storm water system. The test is run for 30 minutes and repeated 52 weeks per year.

Last year, 2,340,000 gallons of water was purchased to replace what was used during testing.

The Success - Rerouting the Drain Back Into the Tank

The solution was to install additional piping and reroute the drain back into the top of the on-site storage tank.

The rerouted water is reused during our fire pump tests.

The Pollution Prevented

This project saves 2,340,000 gallons of water and \$11,700 annually.

Future Activities

Through "kaizen" or continuous improvement activities, we were able to execute our slogan, "Prevent Pollution: Reduce, Recycle, and Reuse". DENSO always looks for opportunities to prevent pollution and be a responsible corporate citizen.

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